

AFTNC ANNUAL CONFERENCE: Paradox of Intimacy and Sexuality

Featuring Esther Perel, MFT, author of international bestseller,

Mating in Captivity: Unlocking Erotic Intelligence.

October 2-4 at Pajaro Dunes in Watsonville, CA



In her twenty years of clinical experience, renowned Marriage and Family Therapist and acknowledged authority on couples therapy, cross-cultural relations, and culture and sexuality, Esther Perel has treated hundreds of couples whose home lives are empty of passion. They describe relationships that are open and loving, yet sexually dull. What is going on? Perel's take on bedroom dynamics promises to liberate, enchant, and provoke. Ms. Perel, who studied with Salvador Minuchin and whose training is rooted in family therapy as well as psychodynamic work, brings the need for space, differentiation, fantasy and even aggression into the domestic life of couples. Perel draws from psychology, trauma theory, psychoanalysis, philosophy, anthropology and literature to broaden and enliven our understanding of couples and our practice of couples therapy.

Using case examples and video vignettes, Ms. Perel will demonstrate how to help couples draw pleasure from the hidden, the suggestive and the uncanny while also respecting their needs for safety and stability. We will explore how to grant the body its profound capacities for communicating in its own language, how couples can voice their erotic longings and move beyond their familiar comfort zone into an expansive, fully charged sexuality. This model applies to married and unmarried, heterosexual and same sex couples.

Guided by Esther Perel and her bold new take on intimacy and sex, Conference attendees will probe the ambiguities of love and desire, exploring ways to balance the need for security and closeness with the quest for separateness and passion and unlock erotic intelligence as we learn to:

- * Understand how emotional history shapes the erotic blueprint
- * Recognize why more intimacy can lead to less sex
- * Cultivate eroticism, playfulness, and mystery between partners
- * Unlock erotic blocks and bring the “x” back to sex
- * Keep desire alive after kids are born

Ms. Perel's book, *Mating in Captivity: Reconciling the Erotic and the Domestic* (2006, Harper Collins) is being translated into 25 languages and has been widely reviewed and praised. She has made a number of national television appearances including “NBC'S The Today Show,” “The Oprah Winfrey Show,” and “CBS This Morning.” Ms. Perel serves on the faculty of The Family Studies Unit, Department of Psychiatry, New York University Medical Center and The International Trauma Studies Program. Esther was named one of Elle Magazine's 2007 IntELLElgentia and she is the recipient of the 2009 book award for Society for Sex therapy and Research. For more on Esther Perel, visit www.estherperel.com

We are currently looking for volunteer couples to participate in a live demonstration with Ester Perel on Sunday October 4. Please contact Linda Klann (linda_klann@hotmail.com) or Lisa Anderson Shaffer (lisaandersonshaffer@gmail.com) immediately if you would like to participate.

Registration due by Monday, August 24th 2009

Annual Conference: Paradox of Intimacy and Sexuality Featuring Esther Perel, MFT

Program: **October 2-4, 2009** Friday evening through Sunday afternoon
Pajaro Dunes: 105 Shell Drive Watsonville, CA 95076 (Approx travel time from Bay Area is 2 hours)
1800 564 1771 info@pajarodunes.com www.pajarodunes.com

Meet and Greet Barbeque with Esther Perel: Friday, October 2: 7-9 PM

Saturday October 3	Sunday October 4
Session A: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Session C: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Lunch: 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Lunch: 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm
Session B: 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Session D: 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm
Dinner: 6:00 pm	Adjourn 3:30 pm
S'mores Beach Bonfire 9:00 pm	

Please complete form and email or send to: **Linda Klann:**linda_klann@hotmail.com
Linda Klann: 1325 Columbus Ave., San Francisco, CA 94133

Payment can be made online at www.aftnc.com or by check payable to AFTNC and sent to Linda Klann
Please contact Conference Co-Chairs with any questions you may have regarding the conference.
Linda Klann: linda_klann@hotmail.com & Lisa Anderson Shaffer: lisaandersonshaffer@gmail.com

Name: _____ AFTNC Member: Yes _____ No _____

License#/Type: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: Home: _____ Work: _____

Roommate Preference (if applicable): _____ Meal Choice (circle one): Vegan/ Fish only/ Regular
If you are bringing a partner with you to share the master bedroom there is an additional food fee of \$137.00

AFTNC Members: Conference and Lodging

Master bedroom with private bath \$431
Shared bed & bath \$391
Conference only: \$241
Student Members: \$
Work Study Members: \$
Additional Partner Fee: \$137
Ram Gokul Scholarship Fund \$
Late Registration:
After August 24th Lodging no longer included: \$220
Student: \$
Work Study: \$
Member Total: _____

Non Members: Conference and Lodging

Master bedroom with private bath \$531
Shared bed & bath \$491
Conference only: \$290
Student: \$
Work Study: \$
Additional Partner Fee: \$137
Ram Gokul Scholarship Fund: \$
Late Registration:
After August 24th Lodging no longer included: \$320
Student: \$
Work Study: \$
Non Member Total: _____

CEU's for members and non-members: \$10.00

Cancellation Policy: Please contact Linda before **September 18, 2009** to receive your refund less **\$35.00** administration fee if you cannot attend the conference. Be advised that cancellation of your accommodations at Pajaro Dunes after September 18, 2009 will result in a payment penalty of one night's room rate.

Auxiliary Requests: Please email Lisa: lisaandersonshaffer@gmail.com if you need auxiliary aids or services to assist you during the conference. We will make every effort to accommodate your requests.

****Above costs include: Shared Condominiums with Baths, daily use fees at Pajaro Dunes, Friday Night BBQ, Saturday and Sunday Continental Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner & S'mores Bonfire.**

*****Ram Gokul Scholarship Fund ~ AFTNC has created a scholarship fund in honor of the late Ram Gokul to help support members committed to family therapy who otherwise would not be able to afford to attend the conference. If you are interested in applying for the scholarship fund, please contact Lisa Anderson Shaffer at lisaandersonshaffer@gmail.com for more information.**